



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

# Weekly Weather Crop Report

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Week ending September 17, 2006

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, September 17, 2006**. Scattered showers were reported in a good deal of the State this week. The rain delayed harvesting activities for some farm operators. Many hay producers feel that additional fieldwork, such as spraying for armyworms, is not cost worthy because of the small yields for additional cuttings. Livestock conditions are slowly improving. Soil moisture was rated 38 percent very short, 34 percent short, 27 percent adequate. and 1 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 09/17/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, mature	100	100	99	100
Corn, harvested	97	93	86	84
Cotton, open bolls	95	93	87	86
Cotton, harvested	30	18	7	8
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	93	90	97	92
Peanuts, harvested	10	6	--	--
Rice, mature	93	79	83	90
Rice, harvested	64	41	26	49
Sorghum, mature	100	100	100	100
Sorghum, harvested	99	94	95	86
Soybeans, turning color	98	96	96	90
Soybeans, dropping leaves	93	89	88	77
Soybeans, harvested	82	77	65	52
Sweet Potatoes, harvested	31	18	36	29
Winter Wheat, planted	2	--	--	2

Crop condition for week ending 09/17/06

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cotton	14	20	30	29	7
Livestock	17	18	35	27	3
Pasture	26	34	33	7	0
Peanuts	3	6	42	49	0
Rice	1	5	16	59	19
Sweet Potatoes	2	24	39	28	7

## County Agent Comments

“Very few soybeans remain to be harvested. The more cotton that is picked, the better it gets. Even a scattered shower during the growing season made a big difference.”

— Robert Martin, Sharkey

“Producers are busy harvesting cotton and soybeans. Corn harvesting is just about completed. Corn and Group IV soybean yields are down from last year. Cotton yields are also down from last year. Dry weather and disease were the major causes of low yield.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“We have missed several rains that forecasters predicted and it's probably too late for most hay producers to benefit from any additional rainfall now. The temperatures are cooling down and the grass has slowed down growth. If we get some soaking rains in the near future, then the winter forage producers may benefit.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“The harvesting of all crops is moving rapidly. Armyworms are damaging pastures but few sprays are being applied because grasses are so short from the drought.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“This past week, hay harvesting was in full swing. There was probably more hay rolled in the past week than the rest of the summer combined. We are still having to treat armyworms. Seedbed preparation for winter grass has begun.”

— Clayton Rouse, Lamar

“Rainfall ranged from 1 to 3 inches this week across the county. The hay harvest will be at least 50 percent short this year. The remaining cattle are in good condition on most farms. Ryegrass fields are being prepared for planting.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Showers this morning will stop all fieldwork.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“The cotton harvest is progressing rapidly and the rice harvest is at about 35 percent finished. Most of the Group IV soybeans have been harvested.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Overall, corn and soybean yields are not good. Cotton harvest aid chemicals have been applied to fields and cotton is opening rapidly. We received some rain and it has helped to replenish soil moisture.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Operators are still picking cotton at about a bale per acre. Defolianters have slowed and we are having a problem getting re-growth off of the mid-to-lower parts of the plants.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Last week’s rainfall may help late planted MG V soybeans. Cotton defoliation has been initiated.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Producers are spraying for armyworms in hay and pasture fields. Corn yields vary from low to high. Cotton defoliation has begun.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“The rains during the past week have slowed harvesting activities. Cotton yields are poor for dry-land, averaging maybe 500 pounds per acre. Yields are good for furrow irrigated land, averaging above 1000 pounds.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Harvesting continues after some scattered showers. Some areas received heavy rains. Gins are running and elevators are still very busy.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Scattered rains have improved soil moisture levels. For crops, the rain is mostly too late. Rains will improve the pasture and hay situation.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“The county received 2 to 6 inches of rainfall over the week that helped pasture conditions. Cool nights, however, are slowing the recovery of grass rejuvenation and growth. Row crops were too far along to be helped. The soybean harvest is progressing, and cotton harvesting should begin in a few days.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“The rain Sunday afternoon was a welcome sight. Spotted showers have been falling across the county but more rainfall is needed to allow producers to plant fall grazing crops.”

— Victor Lee, Simpson

“The peanut harvest has begun and cotton is not far behind. The recent rain has helped put a finishing touch on a crop that really needed water. Livestock producers are anxious to get seeds into the ground to help with the shortage of hay that is still a very real threat to our area. This was the year to plant corn late. Only the late planted corn produced a harvest of over 75 bushels per acre. Who would have thought of that?”

— Mike Steede, George

“The recent rainfall has allowed some producers the opportunity to cut and bale hay. This is a plus for some producers who do not have hay on hand for the winter.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“The county received very spotty showers that were not enough to deal with the overall rain deficit for the last 6 months.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/17/06													
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
<b>Upper Delta</b>													
Cleveland	94	56	75	75		0.84	0.18	1	1.90				
Lambert	96	57	77			1.93	1.16	1	6.45				
Tunica	92	57	74	74		0.31	-0.32	1	3.55				
Extreme/Average	96	56	76	75	1	1.03	0.30	1	4.18				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Calhoun City	90	55	72	74	-2	5.66	4.82	2	7.16				
Hickory Flat	91	53	71	73	-2	2.08	1.12	2	4.58				
Independence	92	52	72	73	-1	0.98	0.14	2	2.38				
Oxford	93	54	74	73	1	2.18	1.29	3	4.44				
Extreme/Average	93	52	73	74	-1	2.94	2.10	2	4.77				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Booneville	94	55	78	73	5	1.28	0.37	2	2.23				
Iuka	89	49	68	71	-3	0.73	-0.28	2	1.69				
Ripley	91	54	71	72	-1	4.03	3.12	2	5.66				
Tupelo	92	57	74			1.78	0.00	2	2.59				
Verona	94	56	74	75	-1	3.35	2.37	2	4.61				
Extreme/Average	94	49	71	74	-3	2.70	1.72	2	3.68				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Moorhead	94	59	76	76		0.63	-0.19	2	1.05				
Rolling Fork	96	58	78	76	2	0.39	-0.31	2	1.54				
Stoneville	96	56	75	76	-1	1.83	1.06	2	1.90				
Yazoo City	93	57	76	77	-1	0.20	-0.43	2	1.01				
Extreme/Average	96	56	76	76		0.76	0.06	2	1.30				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	94	55	75	76	-1	1.25	0.55	2	2.26				
Carthage	92	55	74	76	-2	1.17	0.33	2	2.30				
Eupora	91	53	73	74	-1	5.20	4.29	2	6.36				
Lexington	94	56	76	75	1	1.55	0.85	2	2.00				
Extreme/Average	94	53	74	75	-1	2.67	1.83	2	2.13				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	92	58	74	74		2.63	1.74	2	3.13				
Houston	92	53	73	73		8.20	7.22	2	8.23				
Philadelphia				76		0.71	-0.06	2	2.11				
State University	91	51	71	75	-4	3.60	2.76	2	7.14				
Extreme/Average	92	51	73	75	-2	4.81	3.92	2	6.17				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	95	59	78	77	1	1.48	0.42	2	2.97				
Natchez	94	57	77	77		0.20	-0.67	2	3.23				
Oakley	94	58	76	76		0.50	-0.20	1	1.35				
Vicksburg	93	57	77			0.41	0.00	1	1.45				
Extreme/Average	95	57	77	76	1	0.73	-0.18	2	3.10				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	91	59	77	76	1	0.50	-0.48	1	2.07				
Columbia	92	60	78	77	1	0.44	-0.54	2	5.43				
Tylertown	91	63	78	77	1	1.76	0.79	2	5.70				
Extreme/Average	92	59	77	77		0.90	-0.08	2	4.40				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Beaumont						0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
Hattiesburg	91	62	78	78		1.16	0.12	3	1.82				
Laurel	92	60	77	76	1	1.43	0.38	2	1.72				
Newton	94	52	74	75	-1	0.85	0.01	2	2.54				
Extreme/Average	94	52	76	76		1.15	0.17	2	2.13				
<b>Coastal</b>													
Gulfport	87	67	78	79	-1	2.56	1.00	4	4.18				
Pascagoula 3 NE	89	65	77	78	-1	4.40	2.78	3	6.06				
Picayune				78		1.10	-0.19	2	3.90				
Extreme/Average	89	65		78		0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
<b>State</b>	96	49	75	76	-1	2.00	1.12	2	3.46				

DFN = Departure from Normal.